

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 06805 201740Z  
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05  
ERDA-05 DODE-00 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05  
CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-06  
FEA-01 /113 W

-----210022Z 028894 /22

R 201652Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7548  
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 06805

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PARM, TECH, EAID, EG, GW  
SUBJECT: QATTARA DEPRESSION PROJECT: NUCLEAR ASPECTS

REF: (A) BONN 5343, (B) STATE 84422

1. QATTARA DEPRESSION PROJECT WAS NOT BROACHED DURING  
SADAT VISIT, BUT EGYPTIAN MINISTER FOR ELECTRICITY AND  
ENERGY, AHMAD SULTAN, WAS IN BONN AND FRANKFURT FROM  
13-19 APRIL. EMBASSY DELAYED RESPONSE TO REF B UNTIL  
SULTAN DEPARTED FRG.

2. ECONCOOPMIN OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR EGYPT TOLD US  
THAT SULTAN MET ALONE WITH COOP MINISTER SCHLEI FOR  
ONE HOUR. SULTAN PRESSED VERY HARD FOR THE PROJECT AND  
MADE IT CLEAR THAT EGYPTIANS HAD NOT FORECLOSED EITHER  
THE NUCLEAR OR NON-NUCLEAR OPTIONS FOR EXCAVATION.  
SULTAN ARGUED THAT, BESIDES POWER PRODUCTION, THE  
PROJECT WOULD ALSO EVENTUAILY PROVIDE INDUSTRIAL AND  
AGRICULTURAL BENEFITS TO EGYPT AND HE ENVISIONED, IN THE  
LONG-TERM, LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE MOVING TO THE  
QATTARA DEPRESSION AREA.

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3. MINISTER SCHLEI DID NOT FLATLY REFUSE FURTHER  
GERMAN PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT IN HER TALK WITH  
SULTAN, BUT ALSO DID NOT MAKE ANY COMMITMENTS. THE  
PROJECT WAS ALSO DISCUSSED DURING A MEETING OF THE  
QATTARA DEPRESSION PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE  
AT WHICH MR. OTWAY OF THE IAEA WAS PRESENT. MEETING

REPORTEDLY WAS STORMY AND PARTICIPANTS COULD NOT EVEN AGREE ON MINUTES FOR THE MEETING.

4. ACCORDING TO COOPMIN FRG WILL DEFINITELY NOT APPROPRIATE MONEY FOR SECOND STAGE OF FEASIBILITY STUDY, WHICH WOULD COST ANYWHERE FROM DM 20-100 MILLION. THE ONLY QATTARA ISSUES LEFT FOR THE FRG ARE: (A) WHAT TO DO WITH THE REMAINING DM 11.3 MILLION FROM THE FIRST STAGE OF THE FEASIBILITY STUDY; AND (B) HOW TO OFFICIALLY TELL THE EGYPTIANS THAT THE FRG WILL GO NO FARTHER. FRG OFFERED TO USE THE REMAINING DM 11.3 MILLION TOWARD FEASIBILITY STUDIES OF ALTERNATIVE POWER AND IRRIGATION PROJECTS, BUT THIS WAS NOT ACCEPTED BY THE EGYPTIANS. COOPMIN OFFICIAL SPECULATED THAT FRG REFUSAL TO STUDY PROJECT FARTHER COULD NOW COME IN THE FORM OF A LETTER FROM FRAU SCHLEI TO SULTAN. HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO GAIN DEFINITE CLEARANCE FOR HER MOVE, SCHLEI MAY DECIDE FIRST TO RAISE THE MATTER FOR DECISION AT A FUTURE CABINET MEETING.

5. COOPMIN PROMISED TO INFORM EMBASSY WHEN A FINAL DECISION IS MADE ON FUNDS AND REFUSAL ISSUES.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS, EXCAVATING EQUIPMENT, TEST FACILITIES, QATTARA PROJECT, NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BONN06805  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770137-1107  
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**Office:** ACTION ACDA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 BONN 5343, 77 STATE 84422  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2756417  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** QATTARA DEPRESSION PROJECT: NUCLEAR ASPECTS  
**TAGS:** PARM, TECH, EAID, EG, GE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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